

Message Text

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ACTION MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 SCS-03 SSO-00 SY-05

CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 FAA-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 USIE-00 IO-13

L-03 PRS-01 SP-02 SYE-00 /071 W

-----105669 050533Z /16

R 030700Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8469

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 3842

ATTENTION M/CT AND S/S-O

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PORS, SN

SUBJ: INFORMATION ON AMCITS INVOLVED IN AIRCRAFT HIJACKINGS

REF: STATE 197921

1. EMBASSY HAS INVESTIGATED PROCEDURES IN EFFECT LOCALLY FOR CHECKING OUT PASSENGERS DEPARTING SINGAPORE ON INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE FLIGHTS. RESULTS AS FOLLOWS:

2. SINGAPORE IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES: SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT, ANXIOUS TO ENCOURAGE TOURIST TRAVEL, HAS STREAMLINED ITS IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES FOR AIRLINE PASSENGERS. ARRIVING PASSENGERS MUST FILL OUT DISEMBARKATION CARDS AND ARE CHECKED THROUGH IMMIGRATION. DEPARTING PASSENGERS ARE NOT CHECKED, HOWEVER, AND NO WRITTEN RECORD IS MADE OF THEIR DEPARTURE.

3. AIRLINE PROCEDURES: PAN AMERICAN, ONLY U.S. FLAG AIRLINE SERVING SINGAPORE, PREPARES MANIFESTS LISTING PASSENGERS WHO BOARD AIRCRAFT IN SINGAPORE. THESE LISTS CONTAIN MINIMAL INFORMATION BEYOND NAMES, HOWEVER, AND DO NOT INDICATE CONFIDENTIAL

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NATIONALITY OF TRAVELERS. PASSPORTS OF DEPARTING PASSENGERS ARE VISUALLY CHECKED BY PAN AM TO INSURE THAT TRAVELERS HAVE VISAS FOR THEIR DESTINATIONS BUT NO WRITTEN RECORD IS MADE. ACCORDING TO PAN AM, ALL MAJOR AIRLINES SERVING SINGAPORE FOLLOW THIS SAME MANIFESTING PROCEDURE.

4. TRANSIT PASSENGERS: NAMES OF TRANSIT PASSENGERS PASSING THROUGH SINGAPORE WHO DO NOT LEAVE AIRPORT TRANSIT LOUNGE ARE NOT RECORDED BY SINGAPORE IMMIGRATION NOR DOES LOCAL PAN AM OFFICE MAINTAIN LISTS OF THEIR NAMES.

5. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, MOST THAT EMBASSY COULD OBTAIN AUTOMATICALLY IN EVENT AIRCRAFT WAS HIJACKED AFTER PASSING THROUGH SINGAPORE WOULD BE LIST GIVING NAMES OF THOSE PASSENGERS WHO EMBARKED AT SINGAPORE. LIST WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, SPECIFY THEIR NATIONALITY OR PROVIDE OTHER IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.

6. WE BELIEVE THAT, WITH HELP OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN NATIONALITY OF MOST BOARDING PASSENGERS IN FAIRLY SHORT TIME BY CROSS-CHECKING INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES. SINCE MAJORITY OF PASSENGERS EMBARKING AT SINGAPORE ARE TOURISTS OR SHORT-TERM BUSINESS VISITORS, A CHECK OF DISEMBARKATION CARDS OVER PRECEDING FEW WEEKS SHOULD PROVIDE NECESSARY IDENTIFYING DATA ON MANY OF THEM. CHECKING NAMES ON MANIFEST AGAINST CONSULAR REGISTRATION FILES AND OTHER AVAILABLE LISTS SUCH AS LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP LIST WOULD SERVE TO IDENTIFY OTHERS. THIS PROCEDURE, CANNOT, HOWEVER, BE COUNTED ON TO IDENTIFY ALL AMERICAN CITIZENS ON A PARTICULAR FLIGHT OR TO CONFIRM THAT THERE ARE NONE. THERE WILL ALWAYS BE POSSIBILITY OF

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AMERICAN PASSENGERS NOT LISTED BY ANY OF THESE SOURCES. NOR WOULD IT HELP TO IDENTIFY TRANSIT PASSENGERS.

7. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO ASCERTAIN HOW MUCH PRE-PLANNING IS POSSIBLE. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, WE FEAR THAT THERE IS NO PROSPECT OF SETTING UP LOCAL PROCEDURES FOR "IMMEDIATE AND AUTOMATIC" DETERMINATION OF NAMES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS ABOARD HIJACKED AIRCRAFT. THIS INFORMATION WILL HAVE TO BE PIECED TOGETHER AFTER THE EVENT AND THERE WILL BE NO WAY OF DETERMINING WHETHER IT IS COMPLETE.

HOLDRIDGE

NOTE: EXDIS CAPTION DELETED MESSAGE DECATEGORIZED PER STATE 212421.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, SECURITY, CITIZEN PROTECTION, INVESTIGATIONS, AIRPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770323-1091
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770999/aaaadfib.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 77 STATE 197921
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1391050
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INFORMATION ON AMCITS INVOLVED IN AIRCRAFT HIJACKINGS
TAGS: PINS, PORS, SN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5c44fb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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